

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

Please *amend claims 1 and 7*, without prejudice, as shown below in the following listing of all claims ever presented. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions thereof.

1. (Currently amended) Tubular artificial sausage casing, characterized in that the sausage casing is closed at one end or two ends by a yarn having a metal insert core.
2. (Original) Sausage casing according to claim 1, characterized in that an apparatus for suspending the sausage casing is formed from the yarn having a metal insert.
3. (Original) Sausage casing according to claim 1, characterized in that the metal insert is selected from the group consisting of steel, copper, aluminium, iron and tin.
4. (Original) Sausage casing according to claim 1, characterized in that the metal insert consists of 1 to 10 metal filaments.
5. (Original) Sausage casing according to claim 4, characterized in that the metal filaments have a diameter of 0.01 to 0.5 mm.
6. (Previously Presented) Sausage casing according to claim 1, characterized in that the tubular casing is a sausage casing selected from the group consisting of cellulose fibrous sausage casing, cellulose fibrous sausage casing with coating, uncoated and coated textile sausage casing, plastic sausage casing and collagen sausage casing.

7. **(Currently amended)** Process for producing a tubular artificial sausage casing closed at one end or two ends, comprising closing the sausage casing at one end or two ends by a yarn having a metal insert core.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) Sausage product comprising the sausage casing according to claim 1 and stuffing.

10. (Previously presented) Sausage casing according to claim 3, wherein the metal insert consists of 1 to 10 metal filaments.

11. (Previously presented) Sausage casing according to claim 10, wherein the metal filaments have a diameter of 0.01 to 0.5 mm.